

**EAST LAMPETER TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

October 23rd, 2024

The East Lampeter Township Parks and Recreation Board met on Wednesday, October 23, 2024 at the Township Office: 2250 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602. The statement of recorded meetings was played for all in attendance. Board members present were: Chairperson Jim Everhart, Ms. Diane Tyson, Mr. Chris Chretien, Mr. Frank Hollingsworth and Mr. Bruce Hess. Also present was Mr. Ralph Hutchison, Township Manager, Ms. Tara Hitchens, Assistant Township Manager, Mr. Charles Thomas, Public Works Director and Lisa Cleveland, Park & Rec Director. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jim Everhart at 4:00pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was also held using Zoom, an internet web conferencing tool. A recorded statement was played regarding the use of Zoom for this public meeting which included instructions for the public to use in order to participate in the meeting via zoom.

Public Present in Public Meeting Room

Jeremy Leicy, - 311 Millcreek Rd
Anthony Tsoflias – 2040 Pennwick Rd

Public Present via Zoom

None

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Frank Hollingsworth to approve the minutes of the regular September 25th, 2024 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board which was seconded by Bruce Hess and unanimously approved by voice vote.

Public Comment

Mr. Leicy wanted to thank Township for the prompt attention to the dead trees at the mill race.

Reports

- a. Recreation
 - i. Mr. Chretien stated he did not know anything, Mr. Thomas stated Fall Ball is wrapping up.

- b. Grounds, Buildings and Trails

- i. Mr. Thomas stated the new electrical service should be completed by the end of the month. Contractors are waiting on PPL to de-energize the meter.
- ii. Mr. Thomas stated restrooms will be closed November 12th. Mr. Hollingsworth asked if porta potties will be brought in. Mr. Thomas stated they will be there the next day.
- iii. Mr. Thomas stated fall spraying & fertilizing will be done by the end of the week. 15 trees have been planted in various parks last week.
- iv. Mr. Thomas gave pavilion rental report, rentals are down from 2023. 125 residential rentals in 2023, 114 in 2024, 66 Non- resident rentals in 2023, 53 in 2024. Mr. Hollingsworth asked if it could be due to price increase. Mr. Hutchison stated rates were the same in 2023 & 2024. Mr. Chretien feels that people are calling in to see if pavilions are rented & then just using them when there are no reservations. Mr. Everhart stated he doesn't think rental fee is not out of line with other rental rates. Ms. Cleveland stated weekends are more heavily used for the pavilions. If new fee structure should consider rental of just baseball & volleyball fields Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday. 40 Rentals out of the 168 wanted sports facilities. Mr. Hess suggested charging lower cost on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday for pavilions may make some people shift weekends to weekday rentals. Mr. Hutchison stated baseball & softball want to use the fields without renting a pavilion. He advised the Board to consider that into thoughts as well. Mr. Hutchison stated CV baseball maintains the fields at Flory & Lafayette in exchange for use of the fields there. Ms. Tyson asked are managerially & logistics feasible. Need to look at ways to raise revenue to help grow programming. Ms. Hitchens stated our systems are not currently set up to separate pavilion rentals & sports facility rentals, everything is set up as a pavilion rental. Mr. Hess asked if we hamstringing what Ms. Cleveland is trying to do as we patchwork the charges together. Ms. Cleveland stated she doesn't think so. Mr. Hess stated he suggests charging for the fields. Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, \$25.00 per hour. Ms. Hitchens concern is with parking if all facilities are rented in 1 day. Mr. Thomas asked what happens if someone wants to rent fields for 4 months at a time. Mr. Hess doesn't have a problem with a resident renting whole summer., doesn't want non-resident having that option. Mr. Everhart feels renting a pavilion and wanting the Volleyball court should be an extra fee. Mr. Tsoflias stated there should be regulations & can't rent to far in advance, need to be fair. Mr. Hollingsworth stated residents pay a lower amount then a non-resident and separate pavilion rentals & fields. Mr. Everhart stated charge more for pavilions on weekends and get the use of the fields & then charge less for week days, plus \$25.00 to get use of fields. Mr. Hess \$100 for weekend use with field included. \$75.00 for week days, \$25 for each hour of field use. Mr. Hess feels residents need to have a benefit being a resident. Mr. Everhart stated everything bumps up for non-resident. He also would like Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday to be able to rent just fields. Mr. Hutchison stated staff would need sometime to work through issues before it can be voted on. Ms. Tyson asked for

a special meeting in November since rates would need to be in place by January 1, 2025. Meeting scheduled for November 20th, 2024. Mr. Hutchison stated emails will be circulated to see if everything is starting to look on track. Emails should not be reply all.

c. East Lampeter Township Recreation Program

- i. Ms. Cleveland stated Yoga in the park finished up, Indoor Yoga will be held at Fritz Elementary. Chair Yoga will be at the Township Office starting October 29th. Fall Festival was a success, several 100 people attended. Friday October 18th was Movie in the Park, had over 100 people attended. Currently working on Summer Playground June 16-August 8th Monday-Friday at old Smoketown Elementary. Looking at having a volleyball Tournament in the Spring. Ms. Tyson asked if any location was found for a tree lighting, Ms. Cleveland stated they have not, maybe next year.

Old Business

- i. Ms. Cleveland presented a map for the Community Gardens. Mr. Chretien stated he has been looking around the Township and has seen some gardens that have been framed and covered in plastic as a greenhouse on the plot, he also stated people have brought beach umbrella's, chairs, pop-up canopy's and made the area a home away from home. He would like something put in for privacy, Mr. Hess would also like to see that as well. Ms. Tyson stated she disagrees and feels the property owner should be paying for the privacy, not the Township. Tax payors should not be paying for Mr. Chretien's privacy and if you do it for 1, you have to do it for all residences that have homes by our parks. Mr. Hess stated when talking about a garden, installing shrubs should be included. Ms. Tyson stated we should try the garden for a year before talking about privacy shrubs and/or screening. Mr. Chretien stated he is now going to have 15 sets of people next to him and would like to have something put in. Mr. Hess stated he does not have an issue with money being spent in that area, the money is not being wasted no matter what goes in the area in the future. Ms. Tyson stated if you do it for Mr. Chretien, you would have to do it for the other neighbor. Mr. Hess stated we don't know if the other neighbor would want it. Mr. Everhart stated they could split the cost. Ms. Tyson asked how much 125' of shrubbery would cost. Mr. Hutchison would need to come back to the Park Board with cost in January. Mr. Hess stated Board of Supervisors will need to decide on the spending for the shrubs. Mr. Everhart appreciates what has been done. Mr. Hutchison stated it will be a \$30.00 per plot rental. Mr. Chretien stated since it was staked he realized he has been mowing park of the parks ground for 48 years. He then asked if he should move his mailbox. Mr. Hutchison stated yes, he should move his mailbox. Mr. Chretien suggested they level off the hump to make it easier for Township to mow. Mr. Thomas stated Troy will make sure it

gets mowed. Mr. Hutchison stated staff will bring back an option for screening, it will be low maintenance. Ms. Tyson commented about CV seeds renting a plot, Ms. Cleveland stated they have inquired about a plot, Ms. Tyson would like them to have preference. Mr. Hutchison stated we have a relationship with CV Seeds on homeless outreach & this would be a logical connection as well.

New Business

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:58pm was made by Bruce Hess and seconded by Chris Chretien. Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Tyson
Secretary